THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

A PROFILE

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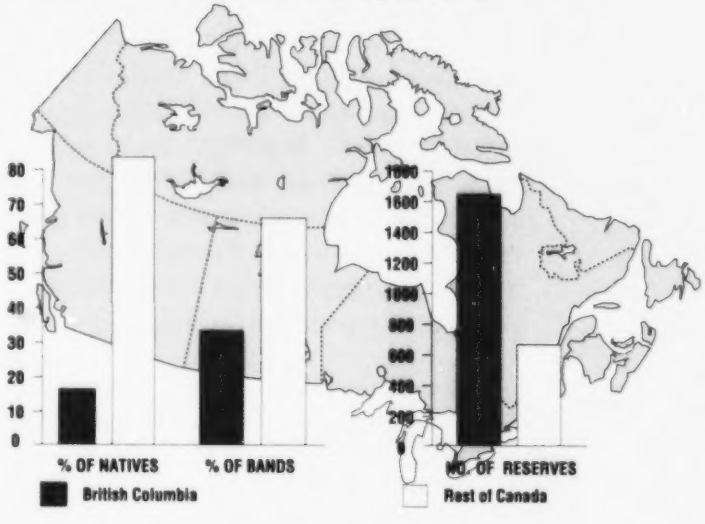
THE ABORIGINAL PEOPLES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA: A PROFILE

British Columbia has a large, culturally diverse and geographically dispersed aboriginal population. Approximately 77,000 status Indians and at least as many non-status Indians and Metis live in the province.

B.C. is home to 17 per cent of Canada's Native population and 33 per cent of all bands. The Province also has almost 1,650 of Canada's 2,300 reserves, but most reserves in British Columbia are small compared to those in the rest of Canada.

About 54 per cent of the status Indians in B.C. live on reserves.

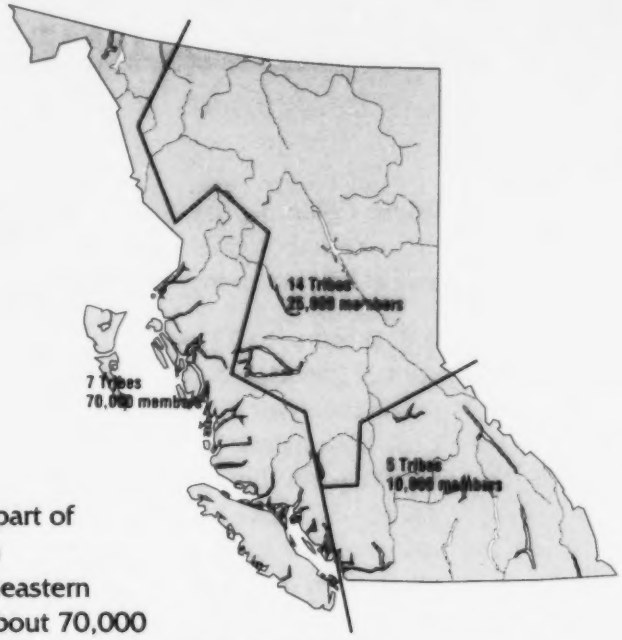


The large number of bands and small reserves is related to B.C.'s mountainous geography. Early Native settlements were located in valleys, estuaries, and plains - small land areas scattered across the Province, usually near rivers or other bodies of water. Many of these same areas were seen as desirable by non-Native settlers. This competition for a limited amount of land suitable for settlement, combined with needs and requests at the time, led to the allocation of reserves much smaller than those in the rest of Canada.

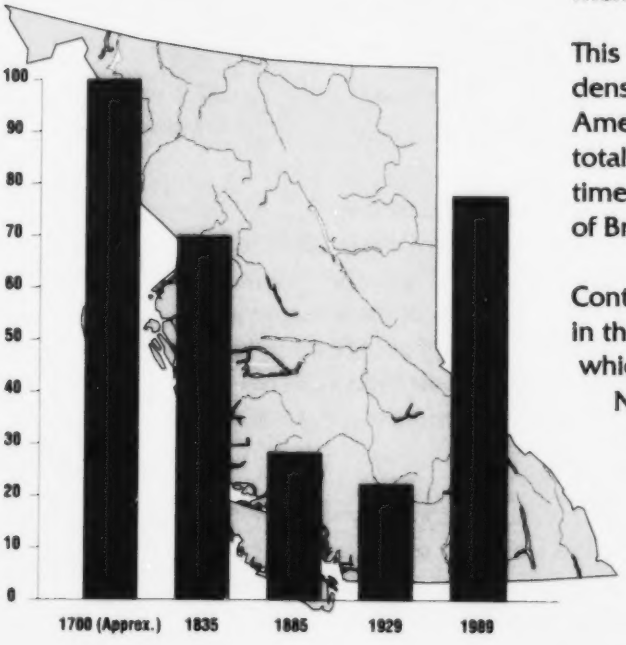
Primary jurisdiction for Native people in Canada comes under the Federal Government. Until the early 1950's, the political, social, and economic lives of Native Indians were strictly regulated by the *Indian Act*. Since then, the trend of government and Native groups has been towards increasing autonomy for Native peoples.

HISTORY

Canada's first peoples have flourished for at least 12,000 years. About 5000 years ago more stable settlements began to emerge and increasingly complex cultures developed in all areas of British Columbia.



By the 1700's, just before contact with Europeans, relatively large Native populations had settled throughout B.C. Fourteen tribes with as many as 25,000 members lived in the northeastern and central part of the province. Another five tribes with 10,000 members settled in the southeastern plateau. Seven tribes representing about 70,000 members lived on the West Coast.



This was an extremely high population density of aboriginal people for North America. In fact, about 40 per cent of the total Native population of Canada at the time lived within the present boundaries of British Columbia.

Contact with Spanish and British explorers in the late 1700's brought the fur trade, which increased the wealth of the Native societies and strengthened the existing social and economic systems. Contact also brought diseases, firearms, and alcohol. From the time of contact to 1835 the Native population

dropped from 100,000 to 70,000. By 1885 the number of Native people had dropped to 28,000 and, in 1929, the population reached a low of 22,000. From about 1939 on, the Native population in all parts of the province began to climb rapidly.

The Colonial Period

In 1849 the British Government established Vancouver Island as a colony in order to encourage non-Native settlement and confirm British sovereignty in the area. With increasing pressure for land from non-Native settlers it became necessary to set policies to establish ownership of land.

As Chief Factor of the Hudson's Bay Company, James Douglas recognized that although absolute title to the land was held by the Crown, Indians could continue to exercise some rights of use. Between 1850 and 1854 he negotiated 14 treaties covering a small part of Southern Vancouver Island. On the mainland, the colonial government maintained a policy of allotting reserve lands to Indian peoples.

Confederation to today

When British Columbia joined Canada in 1871, jurisdiction for Native matters passed from the local governor to the office of the Secretary of State in Ottawa. The trusteeship and management of the lands reserved for Indian use and benefit was assumed by the Government of Canada. The provincial government was required to convey lands needed by the federal government to implement its Indian policy.

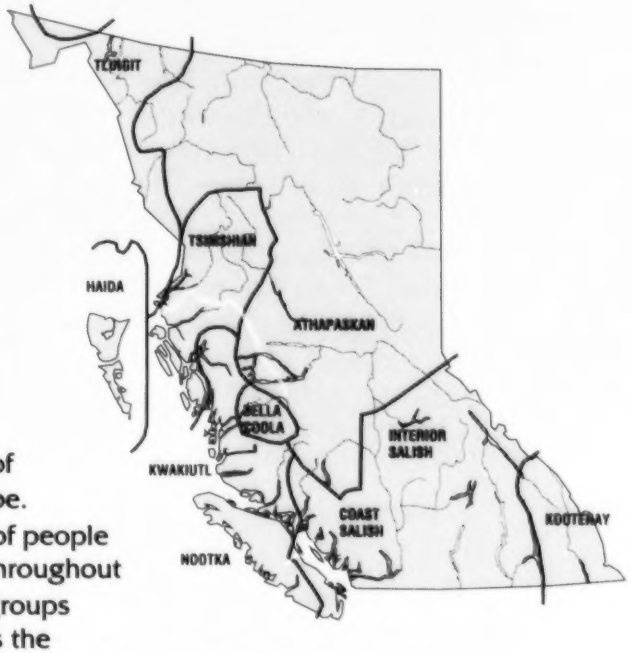
The first omnibus legislation for Indians was passed in 1874. It consolidated and revised all previous legislation dealing with Indians in all existing provinces and territories. The *Indian Act* tightly defined the position of Indians in Canada.

The only other treaty made by the federal government in British Columbia was with five bands in the Peace River area of northeastern B.C., signed in 1899.

LANGUAGE AND ORGANIZATION

Using language as a basis of classification, there are 10 major Native groups in British Columbia. These are:

Athapaskan
(Central and Northeast B.C.)
Inland Tlingit (West Coast)
Haida (West Coast)
Tsimshian (West Coast)
Kwakuitl (West Coast)
Nootka (West Coast)
Bella Coola (West Coast)
Coast Salish (West Coast)
Interior Salish (Southeast B.C.)
Kootenay (Southeast B.C.)



Historically, the most important unit of organization has been the band or tribe. The bands consisted of small groups of people (usually related) who lived together throughout the year. In some areas these small groups remained autonomous. In most areas the groups joined with others, shared a degree of internal organization, and named themselves.

In recent years tribal councils have been formed to deal more effectively with administrative, political, and land use issues. There are 33 tribal councils in British Columbia.

CULTURE

It is believed that the first peoples of British Columbia lived in small nomadic groups. Initially all groups were oriented to the interior and to rivers but some groups became increasingly dependent on the sea. Approximately 5000 years ago large shell middens appeared, suggesting relatively larger settlements and more stable communities. Artifacts from this period include harpoons, woodworking tools, basketry, netting, woven fabrics and wooden boxes. Tribes moved from winter villages to summer sites for

berry gathering, fishing and drying fish and returned to their villages for the winter.

In central British Columbia, concentrations of pit houses began appearing about 3,000 years ago. Stone sculpture, shells and differentiated burial patterns indicate that a more complex society was developing.

The economy was based on hunting, fishing, and gathering. Much emphasis was placed on the preservation of food by smoking. Most land was used communally, although some salmon fishing stations and hunting grounds were controlled by individuals, clans or village groups. Village chiefs made the major economic decisions for the group.

In the northern interior, groups of about 25 persons moved frequently, following game. Personal autonomy was highly valued.

On the coast, the abundance of natural resources plus a temperate climate combined to allow the development of another rich and complex culture.

In many areas, family lines descended through the female, although this was not always the case. Property interests, held and managed by the head of each lineage, included house sites, berry, hunting and fishing grounds as well as intangibles such as names, crests, songs and secret knowledge.

These were transmitted through a ceremony known as the Potlatch. Important people were invited to witness the transmittal. During the ceremony family histories were told and the continuity of lineage established. The host of the Potlatch would use the occasion to display his wealth and present gifts to the guests. The greater the value of gifts, the greater the prestige won by the host. Although the claim to positions in society could be inherited, it was through the Potlatch that rank was assumed and maintained.

The fur trade brought increased wealth to the Coastal society. With this wealth bands engaged in increasingly elaborate ceremonies, creating a greater need for artistic products.

In order to supply more furs to the European traders, the coastal tribes increased trade with interior tribes.

NATIVE PEOPLE TODAY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Approximately 42,000 of the status Indians in British Columbia live in reserves in 350 communities. The average size of an Indian village is about 120 people.

Native people who leave their reserve homes generally do so in search of employment, or to escape the crowded housing conditions and social distress that exist in many reserve communities. But in leaving the reserves, they lose benefits that are available to them from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada - in the main, social assistance, housing, and tax benefits.

Native people who live off reserve are eligible for the same programs and benefits that are available to all British Columbians. For those who live on reserve, however, many of these programs are out of reach.

The paradox of Indian life in British Columbia, as in many other parts of Canada, is that the reserve is the Indian's home. But, on reserve, there is little employment opportunity.

Although the primary responsibility for Indian affairs in British Columbia rests with the federal government, the Province is committed to working with Native groups to provide better opportunities for social and economic development.

A Provincial Ministry of Native Affairs has been created in recent years to resolve long-standing Native concerns involving the B.C. Government and to coordinate provincial initiatives for aboriginal peoples. A number of new programs and services have been introduced to enhance Indian education, preserve Native languages and culture, provide loans for small businesses, negotiate child care agreements, develop strategies for treatment of substance abuse, improve the justice system to meet the needs of Native peoples, and involve Native peoples more in provincial resource management.

For more information contact the Communications Branch, Ministry of Native Affairs, 712 Yates Street, Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X5.

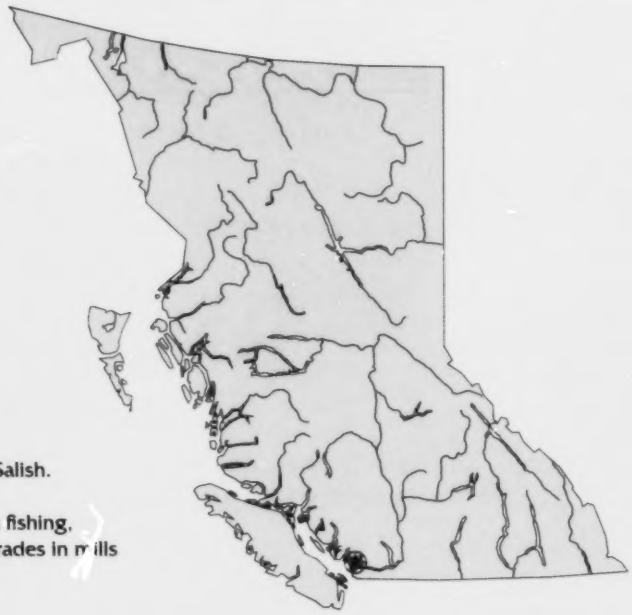
TRIBAL COUNCILS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

NOTE: The information given on the following pages is based on the best data available at the time of printing. Because band/tribal council affiliations change from time to time and sometimes overlap, this directory should be used as a guide only. Except where noted, population figures are taken from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada's 1988 Indian Register. The Ministry of Native Affairs welcomes updated information on bands and tribal councils.

Alliance Tribal Council

6615 Salish Drive
Vancouver, B.C.
V6N 4C4
Phone: 263-1975 Fax: 263-4201

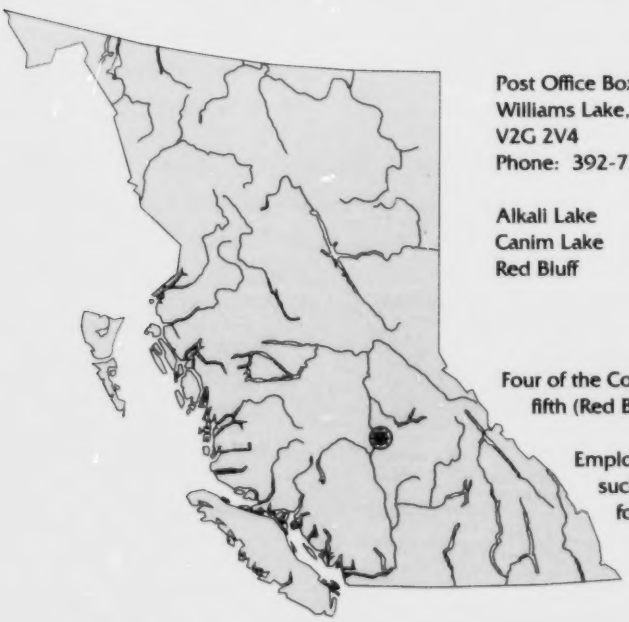
Burrard	(219)	Homalco	(253)
Klahoose	(169)	Musqueam	(748)
Nanaimo	(803)	Sliammon	(597)
Squamish	(2,018)	Tsawwassen	(125)
Katzie	(259)		



The members of the Alliance Tribal Council speak Coast Salish.

Employment ranges from traditional occupations such as fishing, logging, and harvesting clams and oysters to industrial trades in mills and shipyards.

Cariboo Tribal Council



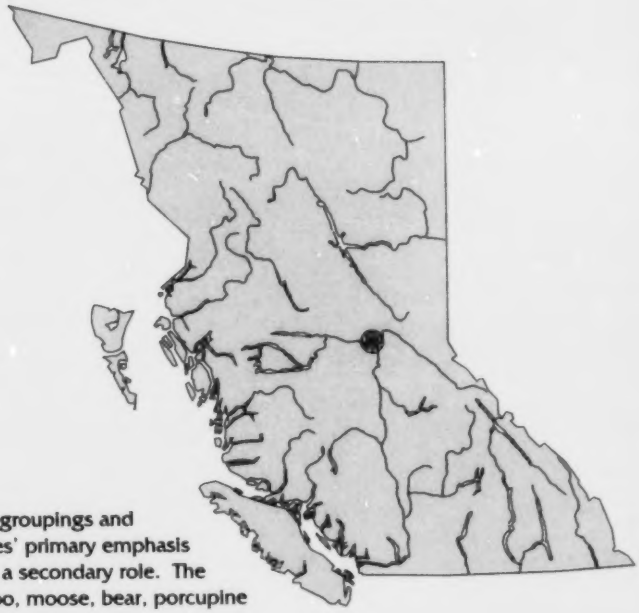
Post Office Box 4333
Williams Lake, B.C.
V2G 2V4
Phone: 392-7361 Fax: 392-6158

Alkali Lake	(467)	Williams Lake	(331)
Canim Lake	(387)	Soda Creek	(210)
Red Bluff	(79)		

Four of the Council's five bands speak Shuswap while the fifth (Red Bluff) speaks Carrier.

Employment ranges from traditional occupations such as hunting and trapping to cattle ranching, forestry, and small business.

Carrier-Sekani Tribal Council

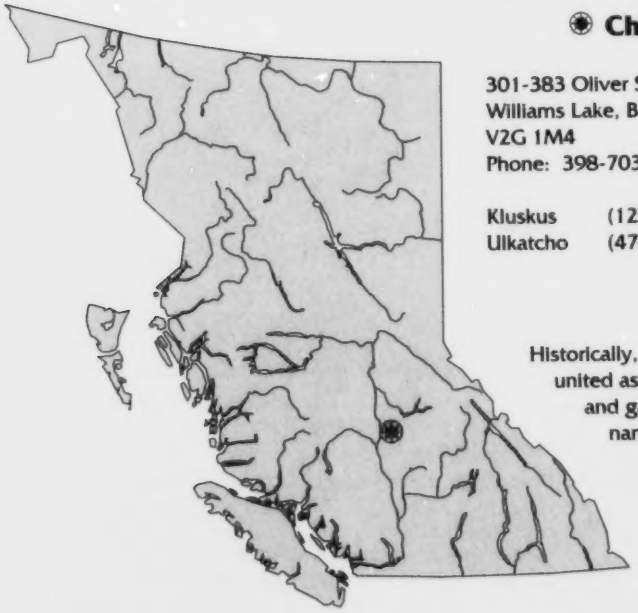


2nd Floor, 1460 6th Avenue
Prince George, B.C.
V2L 3N2
Phone: 562-6279 Fax: 562-8206

Broman Lake	(125)	Burns Lake	(47)
Cheslatta	(168)	Takla Lake	(425)
Fort George	(168)	Fraser Lake	(253)
Ingenika	(231)	Lake Babine	(1,303)
Necoslie	(985)	Mesilinka	(N.A.) *
Stellaquo	(255)	Stony Creek	(582)
Ti'azt'en Nation	(1,109)		

* N.A. = Population figure not available

The bands are part of the Athapascan or Dene language groupings and speak the Carrier and Sekani dialects. The Carrier peoples' primary emphasis has been on fishing, with hunting and gathering playing a secondary role. The Sekani have traditionally relied heavily on hunting cariboo, moose, bear, porcupine and beaver, with less emphasis on fishing.

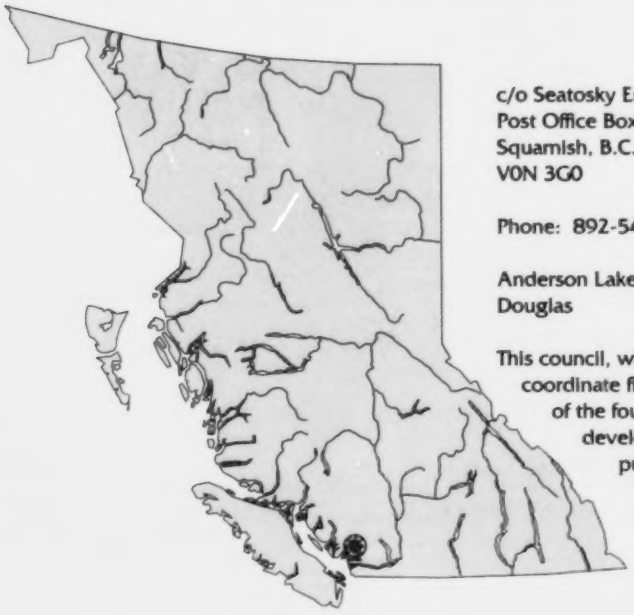


Chilcotin Ulkatcho-Kluskus Nation

301-383 Oliver Street
Williams Lake, B.C.
V2G 1M4
Phone: 398-7033 Fax: 398-6329

Kluskus	(129)	Toosey	(168)
Ulkatcho	(478)	Nazko	(217)

Historically, these were flexible groups that divided and united as circumstances required. Hunting, fishing, and gathering were traditional means of sustenance.



Coast Mountain Development Council

c/o Seatosky Enterprise Centre
Post Office Box 2539
Squamish, B.C.
V0N 3G0

Phone: 892-5467 Fax: 892-5227

Anderson Lake	(162)	Samahquam	(181)
Douglas	(158)	Skookumchuck	(265)

This council, which is in the process of being formed, will coordinate financial and advisory services for use by each of the four member bands in addressing its own development priorities. Member bands are currently pursuing economic development opportunities in the areas of aquaculture, logging (including construction of a sawmill), and tourism.

The traditional language spoken is Interior Salish.

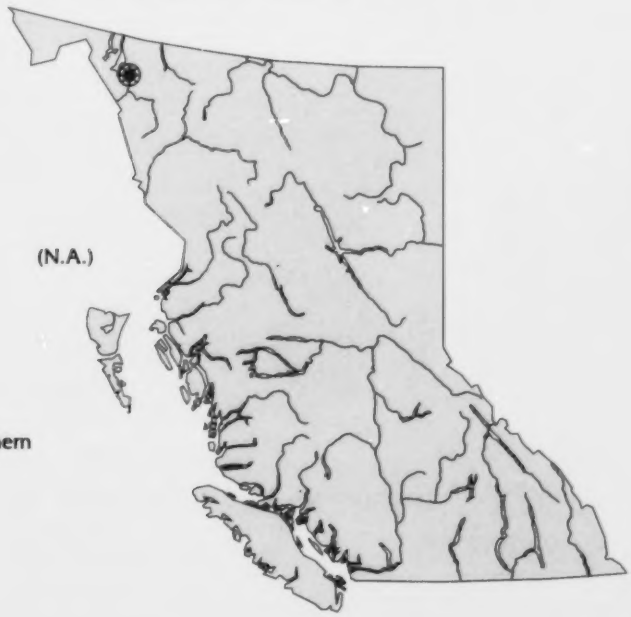
Dax Ka Nation

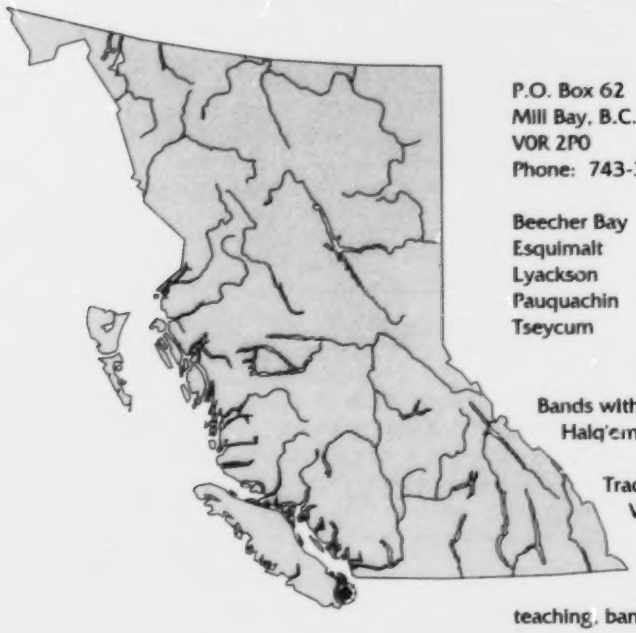
c/o Taku Tlingit Band
Post Office Box 132
Atlin, B.C.
V0W 1A0
Phone: 651-7615 Fax: 651-7714

Taku Tlingit	(N.A.)	Carcross (Yukon)	(N.A.)
Teslin (Yukon)	(N.A.)		

This body, which is in the process of being organized, encompasses the Tlingit-speaking Native people of northern British Columbia and the Yukon.

Traditional occupations include hunting and fishing.





First Nations of South Island Tribal Council

P.O. Box 62
Mill Bay, B.C.
V0R 2P0
Phone: 743-3228 Fax: 743-7207

Beecher Bay	(170)	Cowichan Lake	(9)
Esquimalt	(114)	Nanoose	(144)
Lyackson	(137)	Malahat	(208)
Pauquachin	(215)	Tsawout	(403)
Tseycum	(106)	Tsartlip	(507)
		Sooke	(73)

Bands within this tribal council speak either Salish or Halq'emeylem.

Traditionally, the Native people of southern Vancouver Island have been fishermen, hunters and farmers. Today band members are involved in a range of occupations, from forestry, mill work and longshoring to teaching, banking, operating retail stores and office work.

Fraser Canyon Indian Administration

Post Office, Box 400
Lytton, B.C.
V0K 1Z0
Phone: 455-2279 Fax: 455-2772

High Bar	(34)	Kanaka Bar	(124)
Skuppah	(47)	Spuzzum	(120)*
Nicomen	(79)		

This is not a district council, but it administers programming for the five member bands.

Occupations of band members include logging, ranching and harvesting in the fall, as well as a range of non-traditional jobs such as carpentry, teaching and mechanics work.

Three languages are spoken by bands within this administration area: Shuswap, Thompson and Sto:Lo.

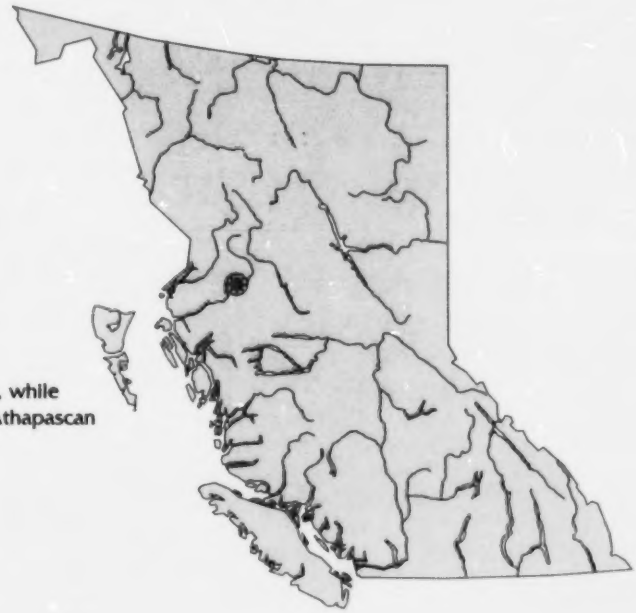
* Population figures provided by Administration office.

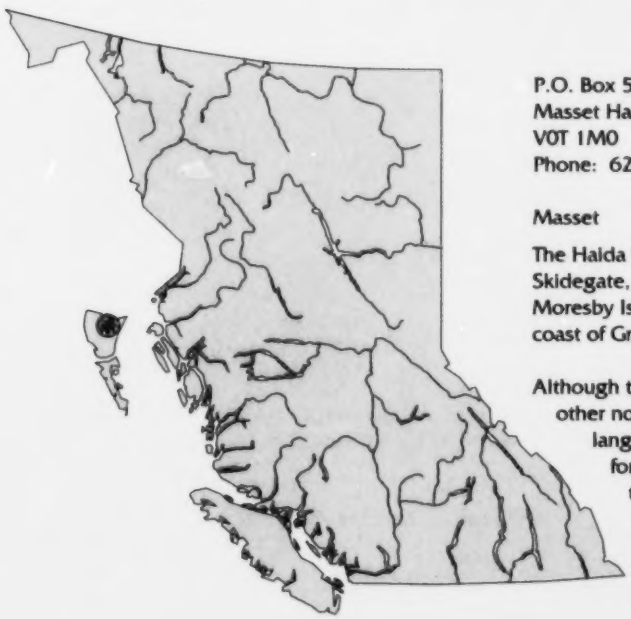
Office of the Hereditary Chiefs of the Gitksan and Wet ' Suwet'En People

Post Office Box 229
Hazelton, B.C.
V0J 1Y0
Phone: 842-6511 Fax: 842-6828

Gitanmaax	(1,286)	Gitwangak	(742)
Glen Vowell	(285)	Hagwilget	(440)
Kisplox	(970)	Gitsegukla	(626)
Moricetown	(1,090)	Kitwancool	(447)
Nee-Tahi-Buhn	(156)		

The Gitksan are part of the Tsimshian-speaking peoples, while the Wet'suwet'en are the western most branch of the Athapascan Carrier Indians.





Council of the Haida Nation

P.O. Box 589
Masset Haada Gwaii, B.C.
V0T 1M0
Phone: 626-5252 Fax: 626-3403

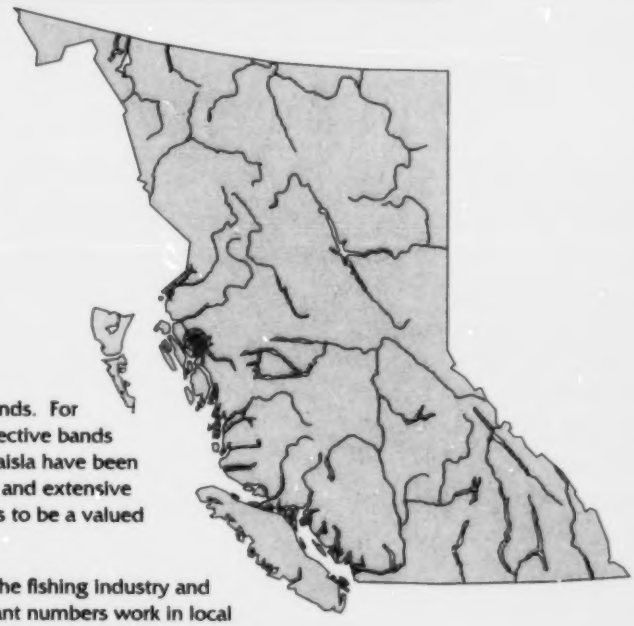
Masset	(1,762)	Skidegate	(833)

The Haida Council is made up of two bands, the Skidegate, located on the inlet between Graham and Moresby Islands, and the Masset, located on the north coast of Graham Island.

Although the Haidas shared a culture similar to other northwest coast groups, they have a distinct language. Survival was based on sea, river and forest resources. The Haida were famed for their large, sea-going canoes and their expert development of symbolic wood carving.

Today their economy is based on fishing at Masset and the forest industry at Skidegate.

Haisla Tribal Council
(Kitamaat Village Council)



Haisla Post Office Box 1101
Kitamaat Village, B.C.
Y0T 2B0
Phone: 639-9382 Fax: 632-2840

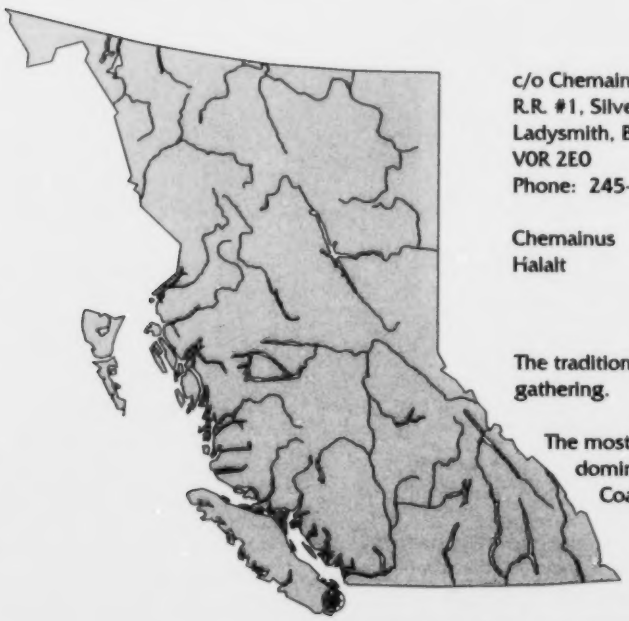
Nalabila	Kitlope
Haisla	Kemano
Gidalidox	Kassa
Bees	

Total population (1,250)*

Traditionally, the Haisla Nation comprised over seven bands. For ease of administration and other considerations the respective bands have all come to be settled at one site, Kitamaat. The Haisla have been a sea-going people particularly famed for manufacturing and extensive commerce involving Oolichan grease. Carving continues to be a valued skill and Haisla art is in collections world-wide.

Today there continue to be many Haisla still working in the fishing industry and trapping is enjoying a resurgence. Additionally, significant numbers work in local industries and commercial outlets, and own numerous small businesses.

* Figure provided by Council Office. Specific band populations not available.



Island Tribal Council

c/o Chemainus Indian Band Office
R.R. #1, Silverstrand Road,
Ladysmith, B.C.
V0R 2E0
Phone: 245-7155 Fax: 245-3012

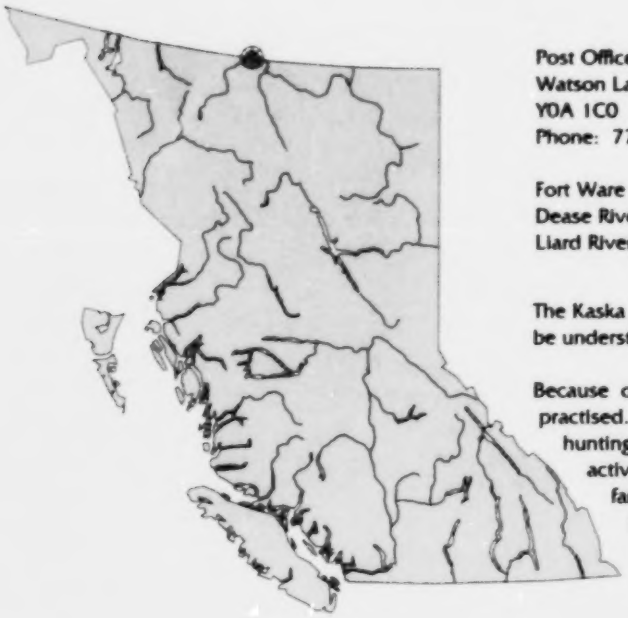
Chemainus	(712)*	Penelakut	(552)
Halalt	(156)		

The traditional occupations are fishing, hunting and gathering.

The most important of these, fishing, remains the dominant occupation. Member bands speak Coast Salish.

* Population figure for Chemainus Band provided by Council office.

Kaska Dena Council



Post Office Box 8
Watson Lake, Yukon
Y0A 1C0
Phone: 779-3181 Fax: 779-3371

Fort Ware	(247)
Dease River	(N.A.)
Liard River Indian Reserve #3	(N.A.)

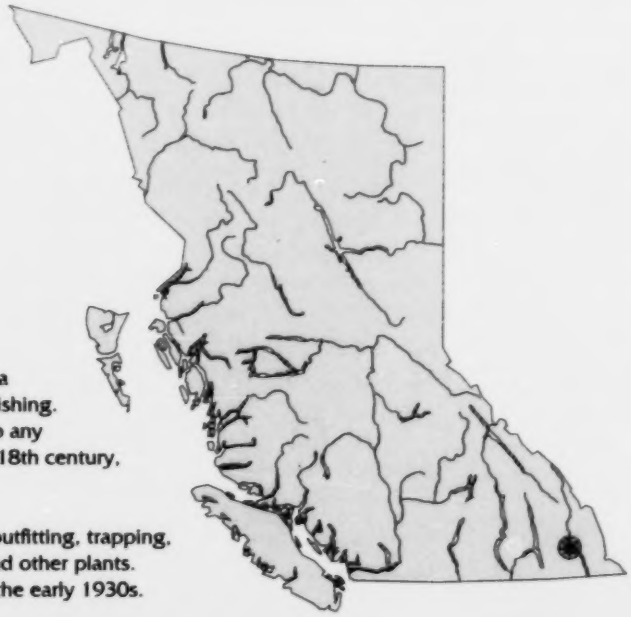
The Kaska people speak an Athapascan language that can be understood by the neighboring Tahltan Indians.

Because of the sub-arctic climate, agriculture is not practised. The economy was traditionally based on hunting, trapping, and fishing. These are still the major activities, carried out seasonally within traditional family-controlled territories. About 25 per cent of the people work part of the year in communities such as Cassiar, Prince George, Watson Lake and Fort St. John.

Kootenay Indian Area Council

Site 15, Mission Road
S.S. #1, Box 14,
Cranbrook, B.C.
V1C 4H4
Phone: 489-2464 Fax: 489-5760

Lower Kootenay	(119)	Shuswap	(172)
Tobacco Plains	(110)	Columbia Lake	(173)
St. Mary 's	(196)		



The Kootenay Indians were a seminomadic people with a subsistence economy based on hunting, gathering and fishing. They spoke a common, distinctive language unrelated to any other tribal language. The horse, introduced in the mid 18th century, extended their hunting economy.

The Kootenay people are involved in hunting, guiding, outfitting, trapping, subsistence fishing and gathering of vegetables, fruits and other plants. Christmas tree cutting has added to the economy since the early 1930s.

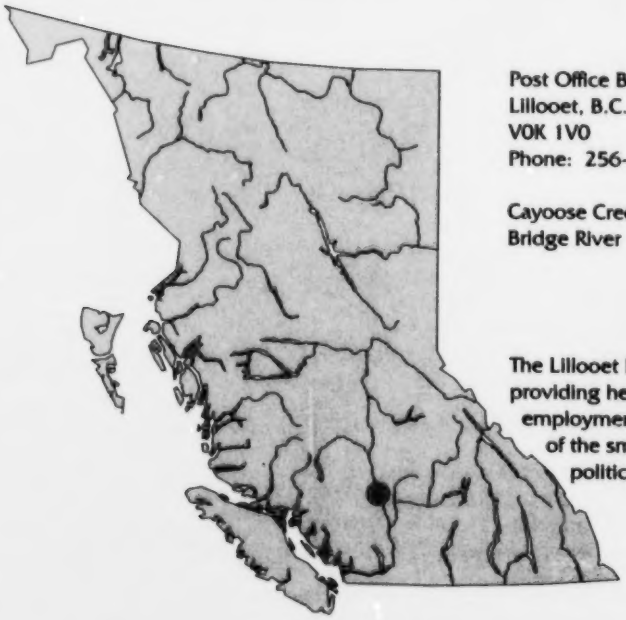
Kwakiutl District Council

Post Office Box 2490
Port Hardy, B.C.
V0N 2P0
Phone: 949-9433 Fax: 949-9677

Campbell River	(383)	Cape Mudge	(620)
Comox	(186)	Kwakiutl	(354)
Kwiakah	(15)	Tlatlasikwala	(29)
Quatsino	(222)	Tanakteuk	(140)
Mamaleleqala-qwe'qwa'sot-enox	(256)		
Gwa'sala-Nakwaxda'xw	(428)		

Traditionally, the main occupation was fishing, supplemented by some hunting and trapping. Current occupations include fishing, hunting and trapping, and arts and crafts (area artists are well known for carving, silverwork, and painting).

The primary language of council members is Kwakwala.



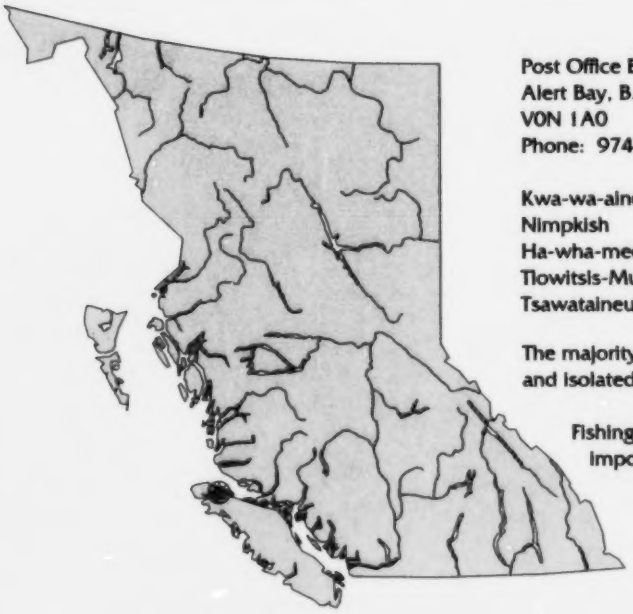
Lillooet District Indian Council

Post Office Box 465
Lillooet, B.C.
V0K 1V0
Phone: 256-4513 Fax: 256-4030

Cayoose Creek	(120)	Lillooet	(190)
Bridge River	(225)		

The Lillooet District Indian Council is responsible for providing health and welfare, drug and alcohol,outreach employment services, and other social services to three of the smaller bands which come under the larger political body, the Stl'atl'imx Nation Tribal Council.

Mus-Gamagw Tribal Council



Post Office Box 90
Alert Bay, B.C.
V0N 1A0
Phone: 974-5516 Fax: 974-5466

Kwa-wa-aineuk	(22)
Nimpkish	(1,242)
Ha-wha-meese-kwicksutaineuk	(233)
Tlowitsis-Mumtaglia	(206)
Tsawataineuk	(353)

The majority of the communities of this council are small and isolated. Council members speak Kwakwala.

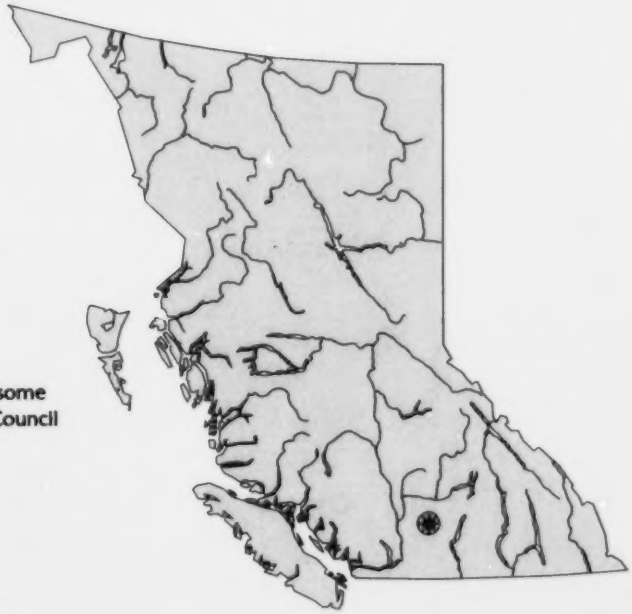
Fishing, the traditional occupation, remains important. Forestry is the other major occupation.

Nicola Valley Tribal Council

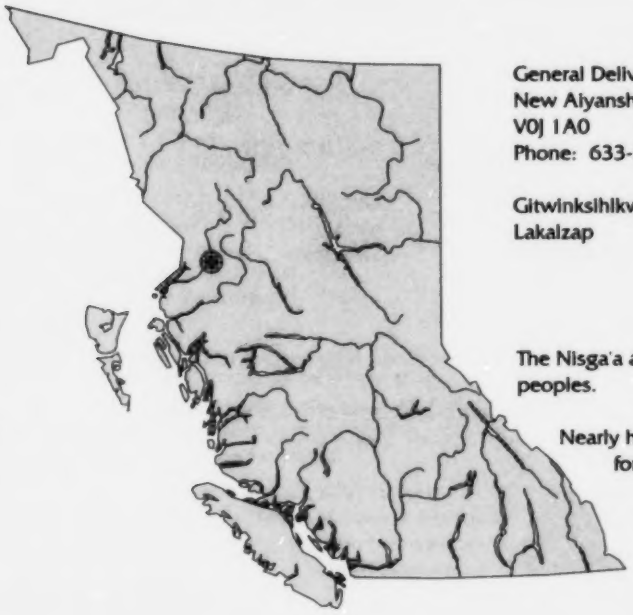
Post Office Box 188
Merritt, B.C.
V0K 2B0
Phone: 378-4235 Fax: 378-9119

Lower Nicola	(590)	Upper Nicola	(616)
Coldwater	(441)	Nooaitch	(128)
Shackan	(102)		

Current occupations include agriculture, cattle ranching, some trapping, forestry, arts and crafts, and small businesses. Council members speak N'lakapmux and Okanagan.



Nisga'a Tribal Council



General Delivery
New Aiyansh, B.C.
V0J 1A0
Phone: 633-2234 Fax: 663-2367

Gitwinksihlkw	(260)	Gitlakdamix	(1,279)
Lakalzap	(1,065)	Kincolith	(1,347)

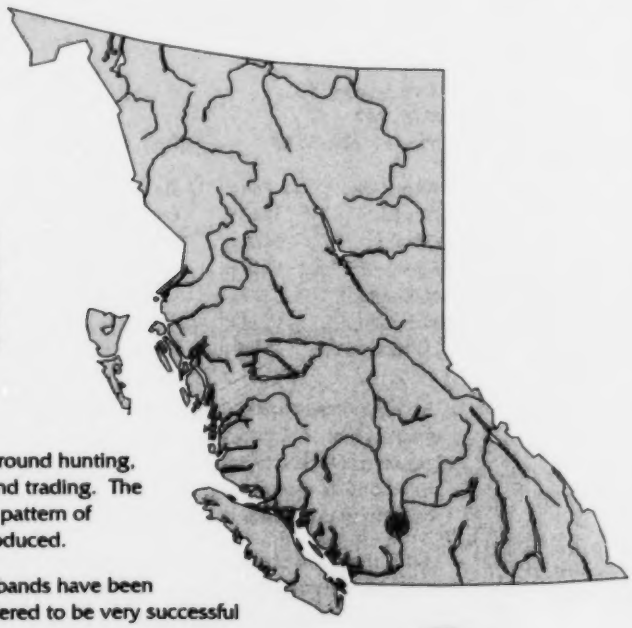
The Nisga'a are a branch of the Tsimshian-speaking peoples.

Nearly half of the Nisga'a live off the reserve. The main forms of employment are logging and fishing.

Nlaka' Pamux Nation Tribal Council

Box 430
Lytton, B.C.
V0K 1Z0
Phone: 455-2711 Fax: 455-2565

Ashcroft	(150)	Boothroyd	(201)
Boston Bar	(160)	Spuzzum	(100)
Kanaka Bar	(113)	Nicomen	(72)
Lytton	(1,280)	Skuppah	(36)
Cook's Ferry	(221)	Oregon Jack Creek	(32)
Siska	(147)		

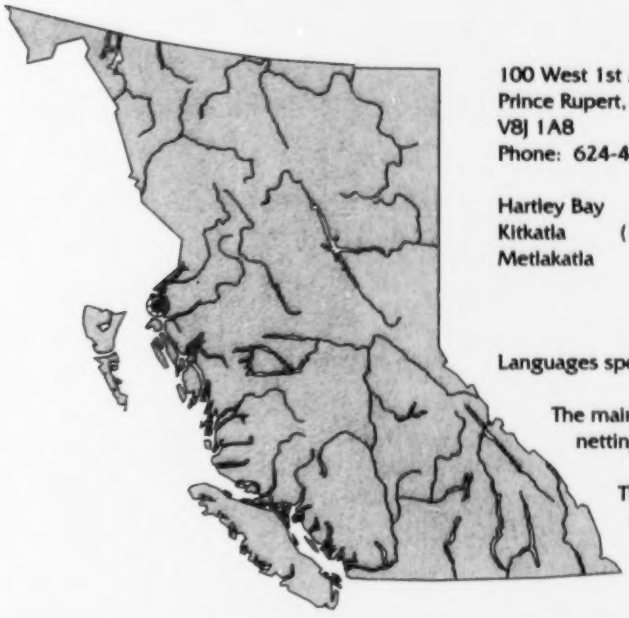


The Nlaka'pamux are Interior Salish Indians.

Prior to 1850, their economy and subsistence centered around hunting, trapping, fishing (salmon), gathering roots and berries, and trading. The discovery of gold in the 1850's somewhat disrupted the pattern of traditional life, as missionaries and the railroad were introduced.

Mining and forestry are now extensively practised, and bands have been involved in cattle ranching and farming. They are considered to be very successful ranchers and farmers.

North Coast Tribal Council



100 West 1st Avenue
Prince Rupert, B.C.
V8J 1A8
Phone: 624-4666 Fax: 627-1602

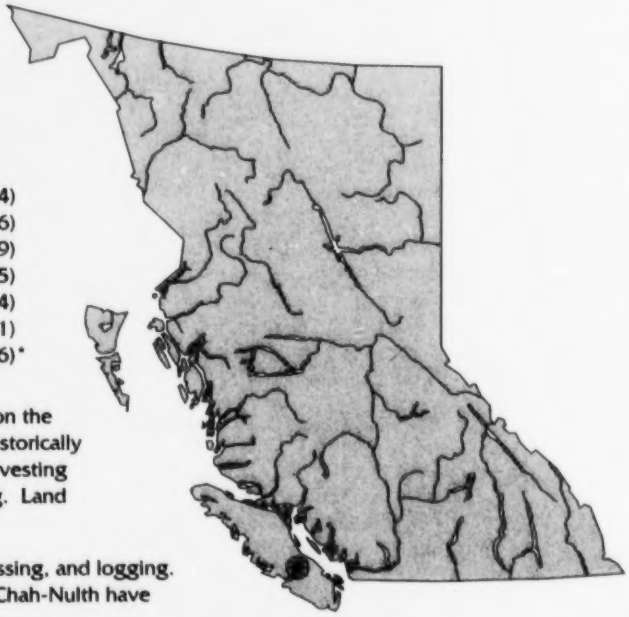
Hartley Bay	(587)	Kincolith	(1,347)
Kitkatla	(1,158)	Masset	(1,762)
Metlakatla	(407)	Skidegate	(833)

Languages spoken are Haida, Nisga'a, and Tsimshian.

The main occupation is fishing (trolling and gill netting). Some trapping occurs.

The North Coast Tribal Council administers social and economic development, education and other programs for the six member bands.

Nuu-Chah-Nulth Tribal Council



Post Office Box 1383
Port Alberni, B.C.
V9Y 7M2
Phone: 724-5757 Fax: 723-0463

Ahousaht	(1,241)	Tla-o-qui-aht	(534)
Ditidaht	(343)	Ehattesaht	(146)
Ohiaht	(400)	Hesquiaht	(479)
Kyoquot	(327)	Mowachaht	(335)
Nuchatlaht	(97)	Opetchesaht	(174)
Sheshaht	(631)	Toquaht	(91)
Uchucklesaht	(119)	Ucluelet	(466)*

The Nuu-Chah-Nulth Tribal Council represents 14 bands on the western half of Vancouver Island. Nuu-Chah-Nulth are historically known as Nootka Indians. Their main occupation was harvesting sea and river resources, including whale and seal hunting. Land hunting was of secondary importance.

Today the main occupations are troller fishing, fish processing, and logging. Because of dense forests and the water barrier, the Nuu-Chah-Nulth have developed in relative isolation from other Indian groups.

Population figures provided by Council office.

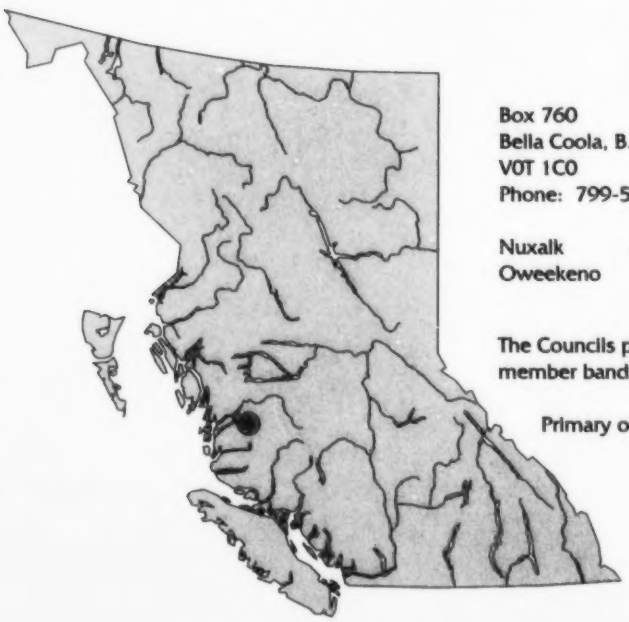
Okanagan Tribal Council

#101-515 Highway 97 S.
Kelowna, B.C.
V1Z 3J2
Phone: 769-6455 Fax: 769-6577

Okanagan	(1,132)	Osoyoos	(267)
Penticton	(551)	Westbank	(386)
Upper Similkameen	(37)		
Lower Similkameen	(294)		

Hunting, gathering, and fishing are the traditional occupations. Band members are currently employed in forestry, ranching and farming, arts and crafts, and some service industries.

Okanagan is spoken.



Oweekeno/Kitasoo Nuxalk Tribal Councils

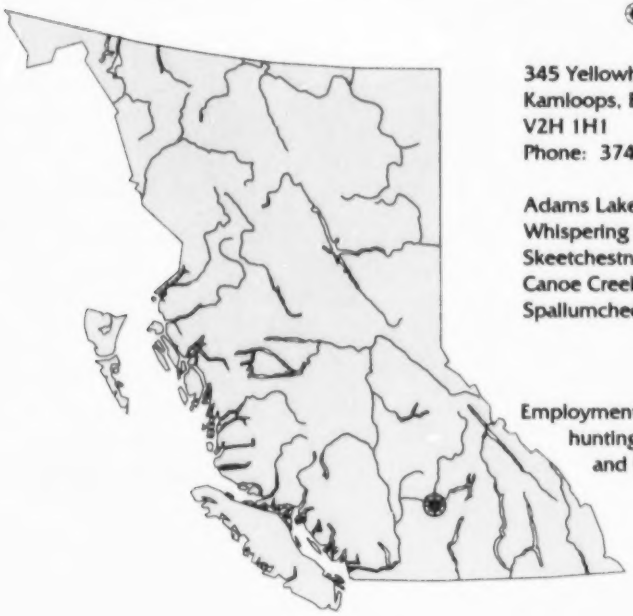
Box 760
Bella Coola, B.C.
V0T 1C0
Phone: 799-5448 Fax: 799-5426

Nuxalk	(1,008)	Kitasoo	(322)
Oweekeno	(187)		

The Councils provide advisory and support services for member bands.

Primary occupations are fishing and logging.

Shuswap Nation Tribal Council

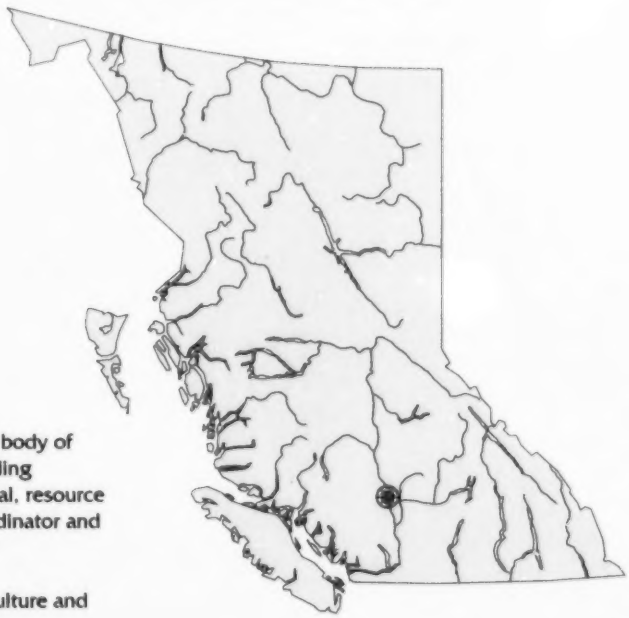


345 Yellowhead Highway
Kamloops, B.C.
V2H 1H1
Phone: 374-9345 Fax: 374-6331

Adams Lake	(475)	Bonaparte	(492)
Whispering Pines	(67)	Neskainlith	(400)
Skeetchestn	(312)	Kamloops	(616)
Canoe Creek	(380)	North Thompson	(431)
Spallumcheen	(487)		

Employment ranges from traditional occupations such as hunting and farming to forestry, raising animals, and labouring.

Stl'Atl'Imx Nation Tribal Federation



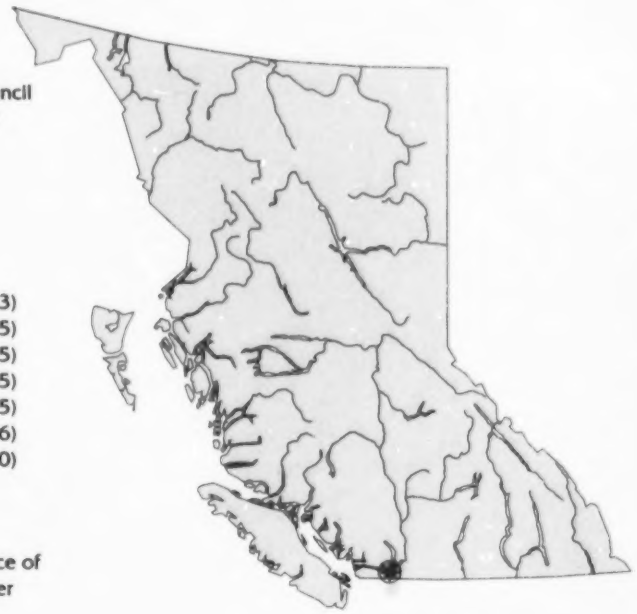
Post Office Box 1420
Lillooet, B.C.
V0K 1V0
Phone: 256-7523 Fax: 256-7119

Bridge River	(225)	Cayoose Creek	(120)
Fountain	(626)	Lillooet	(190)
Seton Lake	(452)	Mount Currie	(1,264)
Pavilion	(302)		

The Stl'atl'imx Nation Tribal Federation, the main political body of seven member bands, provides a range of services including community planning, economic development, educational, resource management, Indian government, financial, justice co-ordinator and technical.

The main occupations are fishing, farming, forestry, agriculture and hunting. Member bands speak Stl'atl'imx.

Sto:Lo Nation Canada



Political Branch
13-7201 Vedder Road
Post Office Box 280
Sardis, B.C.
V2R 1A6
Phone: 858-7265
Fax: 858-7692

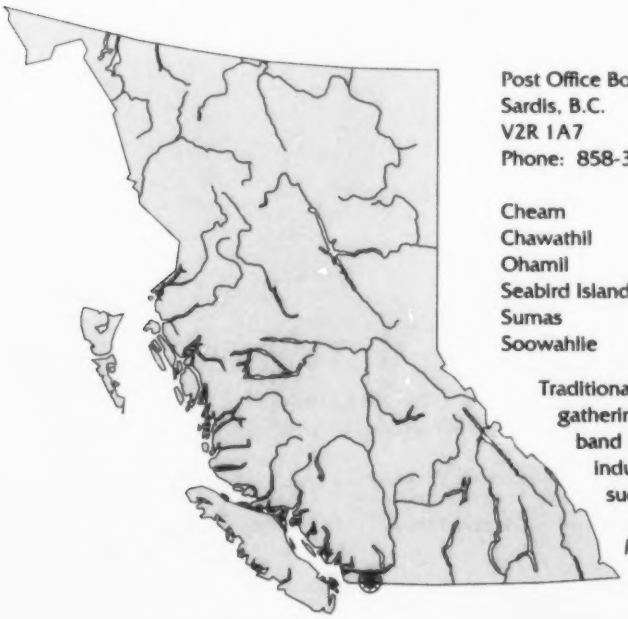
Services Branch
(Chilliwack Area Indian Council
7125 Chilliwack River Road
Post Office Box 73
Sardis, B.C.
V2R 1A5
Phone: 858-3384
Fax: 858-4817

Aitchelitz	(18)	Lakahahmen	(203)
Kwaw-Kwaw-A-Pilt	(26)	Matsqui	(85)
Peters	(73)	Shawahlook	(55)
Union Bar	(63)	Squiala	(85)
		Skowkale	(105)
		Skway	(86)
		Tzeachten	(210)

Council members speak Halq'emeylem

The traditional occupation, fishing, remains a major source of employment. Some band members log during the winter months.

Sto:Lo Tribal Council

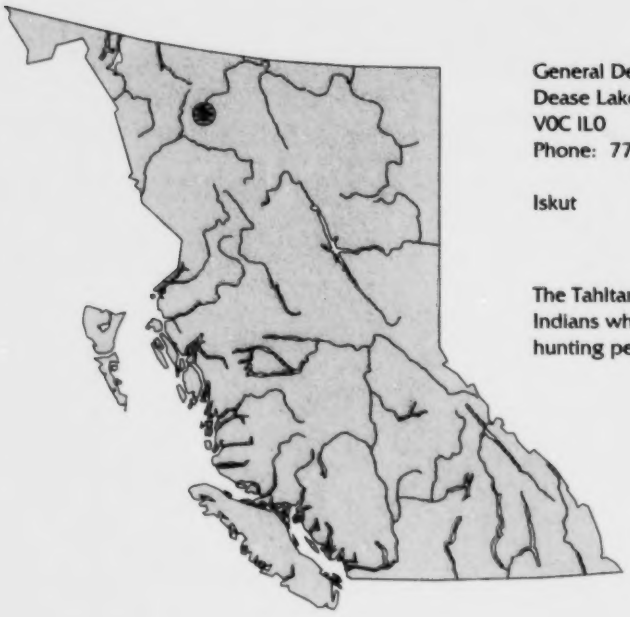


Post Office Box 310
Sardis, B.C.
V2R 1A7
Phone: 858-3366 Fax: 858-4790

Cheam	(260)	Chehalis	(589)
Chawathil	(222)	Langley	(98)
Ohamil	(68)	Scowlitz	(179)
Seabird Island	(436)	Popkum	(6)
Sumas	(187)	Yakweakwioose	(30)
Soowahlie	(209)		

Traditional occupations included fishing, hunting, gathering, trading, and canoe building. Today band members work in the farming and forestry industries as well as some secondary industries such as tourism.

Member bands speak Halq'emeylem.



Tahltan Tribal Council

General Delivery
Dease Lake, B.C.
V0C 1L0
Phone: 771-5151 Fax: 771-5453

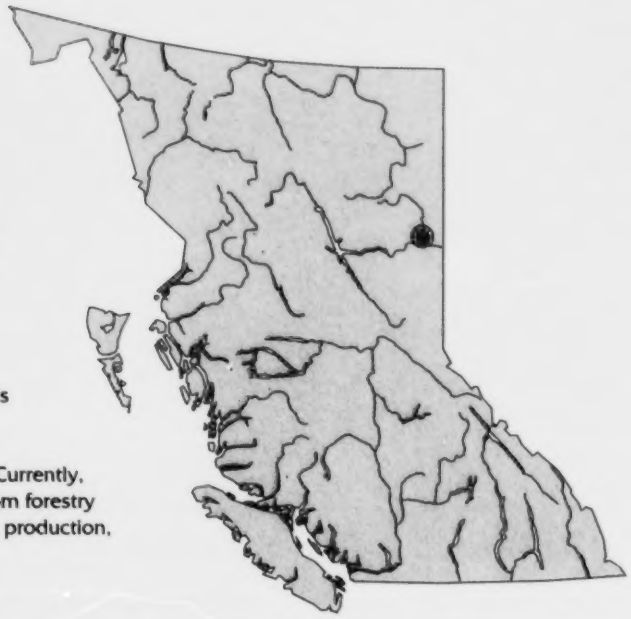
Iskut	(401)	Tahltan	(970)

The Tahltans belong to the Dene, or northern Athapascan Indians who were traditionally a nomadic, big game hunting people with far-ranging hunting territories.

Treaty 8 Tribal Council

10233 100th Avenue
Fort St. John, B.C.
V1J 1Y8
Phone: 785-0612 Fax: 785-2021

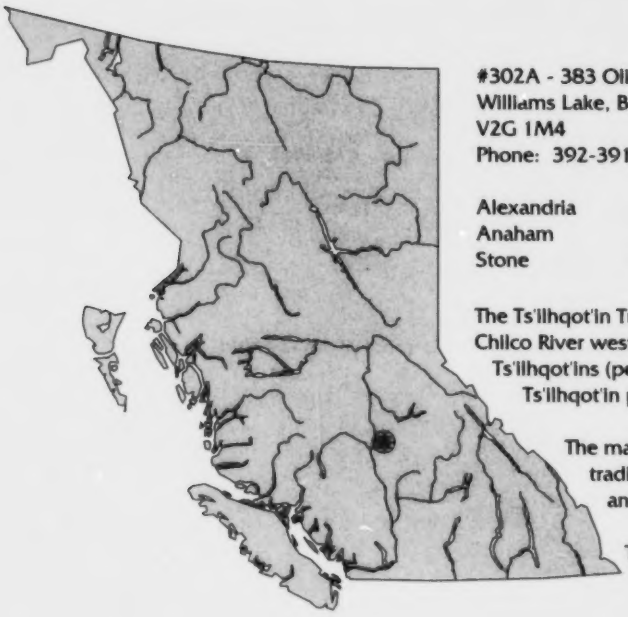
Blueberry River	(201)	Halfway River	(151)
Doig River	(165)	Prophet River	(137)
Fort Nelson	(456)	West Moberly Lake	(81)



The primary language is Beaver. Some Cree and Slavey is also spoken.

Hunting and trapping were the traditional occupations. Currently, band members are involved in a range of occupations from forestry and guiding to secretarial and social work, arts and crafts production, and retailing.

Ts'ilhqot'in Tribal Council



#302A - 383 Oliver Street
Williams Lake, B.C.
V2G 1M4
Phone: 392-3918 Fax: 398-5798

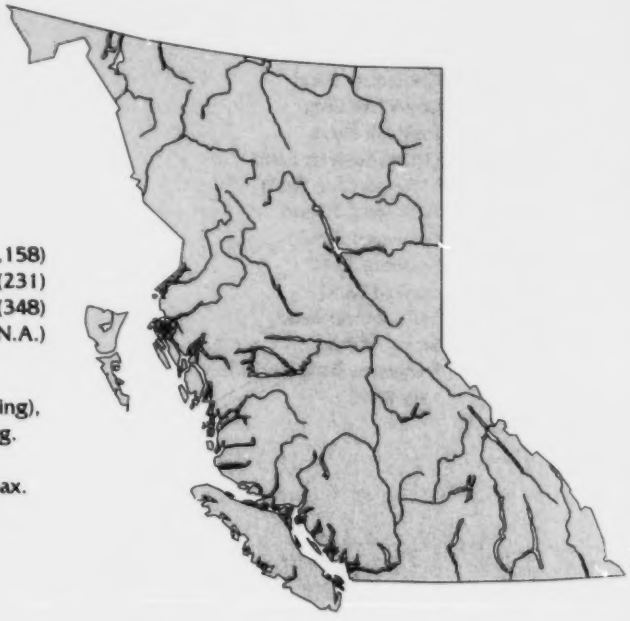
Alexandria	(116)	Alexis Creek	(486)
Anaham	(925)	Nemiah Valley	(294)
Stone	(220)		

The Ts'ilhqot'in Tribal Council consists of five bands along the Chilco River west of Williams Lake, thus giving them the name Ts'ilhqot'ins (people of the river). The mother tongue of the Ts'ilhqot'in people is Chilcotin.

The majority of the Ts'ilhqot'ins still practise their traditional ways and share their traditional fishing and hunting grounds among themselves.

Today the main occupations are ranching and guiding.

Tsimshian Tribal Council

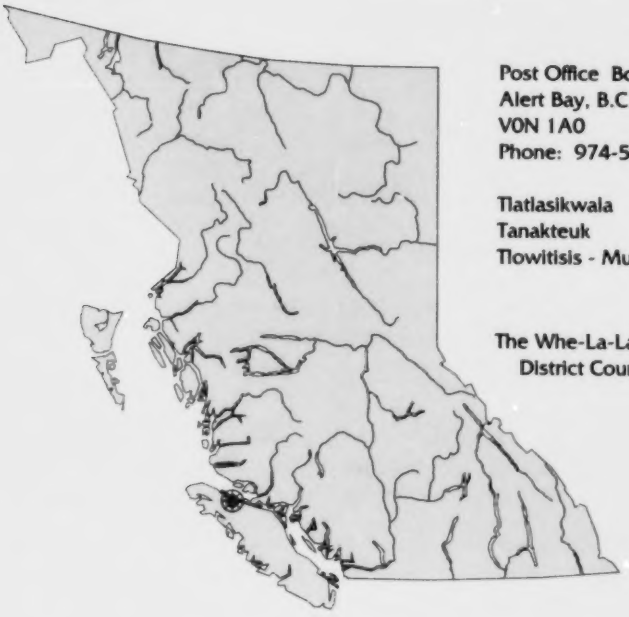


Post Office Box 7,
119 3rd Street
Prince Rupert, B.C.
V8J 3P4
Phone: 627-8782 Fax: 627-1938

Kitasoo	(322)	Kitkatla	(1,158)
Lax Kw'alaams	(2,079)	Kitselas	(231)
Hartley Bay	(587)	Kitsumkalum	(348)
Metlakatla	(407)	Metlakatla (Alaska: Associate)	(N.A.)

Current occupations include fishing (salmon, halibut, herring), logging (some reserves have small saw mills), and carving.

The language spoken by the Tsmishian people is Sm'algyax.



Whe-La-La-U Area Council

Post Office Box 150
Alert Bay, B.C.
V0N 1A0
Phone: 974-5220 Fax: 974-5904

Tlatlasikwala	(29)
Tanakteuk	(140)
Tlowitisis - Mumtagila	(206)

The Whe-La-La-U council is a member of the Kwakiutl District Council.

Independent Bands

Coquitlam Band
Cowichan Band
Heiltsuk Band
Little Shuswap Band
McLeod Lake Band
Pacheenaht Band
Qualicum Band
Saulteau Band
Sechelt Band
Semiahmoo Band
Skwah Band
Songhees Band
Yale Band